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Annual Meeting of the American Peace Society.

Notice is hereby repeated of the Eighty-fourth Annual Meeting of the American Peace Society, which will be held in the Hotel Raleigh, Washington, D. C., May 10, 1912, at 2 o'clock p. m. The business will be the hearing of the annual reports of the board of directors and of the treasurer, final action on the plan of reorganization (with revised constitution), which was adopted in substance at the special meeting held on the 8th of December last, the election of officers and directors for the coming year, and the transaction of any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

BENJAMIN F. TRUEBLOOD,
Secretary.

Editorial Notes.

The Eighteenth of May

The observance of the eighteenth of May, the anniversary of the opening of the first Hague Conference, as Peace Day in the schools, has now become so general throughout the country that there is hardly any longer need to urge it upon superintendents and teachers. The custom originated in Massachusetts in 1905, when Mr. George H. Martin, secretary of the State Board of Education, on the suggestion of the American Peace Society, issued a circular to all the city and other superintendents of the State recommending that the day be observed with exercises of such a nature as to inculcate love of peace and a patriotism of a higher and finer order than that of the past. From this beginning the custom spread to other States, and now the Department of Education in several States has put the eighteenth of May on its regular list of annual memorial days. This year the observance will be more widely extended than ever before. The State branches of the American School Peace League are making it a special feature of their propaganda. The peace organizations are also calling particular attention to the day this spring. In Chicago the Peace Society has undertaken a large program of sectional school meetings in all parts of the great city. The same is true in other places. Let our friends everywhere do their full share in promoting the keeping of this important anniversary. The opening of the first Hague Conference, on the eighteenth of May, 1899, was the commencement of a new era in the history of the world, an era which is to see war die and the nations live together in friendship, trust, and mutual service. Let the children's minds be turned toward the future, and fed upon the great ideals which are carrying humanity steadily upward toward the time when the nations will be so busy with seeking and promoting each others' good that they will have neither time nor disposition to fight and destroy.

No New Battleships.

At a meeting of the Democratic caucus on Wednesday night, March 27, the decision reached at a caucus held some weeks ago, that no appropriations should be made this year for new battleships, was reaffirmed. Mr. Padgett, of Tennessee, chairman of the House Committee on Naval Affairs, had moved to rescind the action of the former caucus and that appropriation be made for one battleship. This motion was laid on the table by a vote of 117 to 25. Mr. Underwood, the majority leader in the House, then moved that the action of the former caucus, eliminating appropriations both for battleships and public buildings, be made a party measure. This motion received the votes of more than two-thirds of the members of the caucus. In consequence of this caucus decision, the Naval Committee, in the bill which it will soon present to Congress, will not ask for the usual appropriations for battleships, but will make liberal provision for smaller craft. The action of the caucus in declining to make appropriations for new battleships this year seems to have been taken chiefly, if not wholly, on economic grounds. We regret that the decision was not also based on higher and more commanding grounds. The economic reason for not increasing the navy beyond its present limits is a very strong and imperious one, but it is by no means the strongest or the most urgent. Certain obligations which we have to the sisterhood of nations in the way of continued leadership in the movement for permanent international peace impose upon us limitation of armaments even more powerfully than any argument drawn from the urgent present need of economy, great as that is. It is regrettable also that public buildings were associated with battleships in the resolution. The two have no necessary connection with each other in the matter of retrenchment. Much-needed public buildings, as well as many other things, have often had to go begging because of the excessive outlays on naval expansion.

The Centenary of Peace.

As the time draws near which will mark the completion of a century of peace between this country and Great Britain, interest in the proper celebration of the event deepens, and preparations are beginning to be made on a scale that gives promise of something worthy of the occasion when it arrives. The leaders of the National Committee in New York are promoting the organization of local committees in many of the larger cities of the country, especially those on the Atlantic and Gulf seaboard and along the Canadian border, which were more or less involved in the War of 1812. A committee of one hundred has been organized in Washington, of which the following members constitute the executive

committee: James Brown Scott, chairman; Henry B. F. Macfarland, vice-chairman; George B. Davis, secretary; Charles J. Bell, treasurer; S. N. D. North, assistant secretary; W. P. Van Wickle, assistant secretary; Marcus Benjamin, W. J. Boardman, Charles Henry Butler, William V. Cox, John Joy Edson, Hennen Jennings, J. Rush Marshall, Theodore W. Noyes, Cuno H. Rudolph, Edward J. Stellwagen, Charles H. Stockton, George Truesdell, George W. White, John M. Wilson, and S. W. Woodward.

A deputation of the National Committee has recently visited New Orleans and other cities, and created local committees. Everywhere much interest in the celebration is manifesting itself. A bill is under consideration in the New York legislature appropriating \$500,000 toward the expenses of the celebration, the erection of peace monuments along the border, etc. The National Congress has been asked, in a bill introduced by Senator Burton, to appropriate seven and one-half million dollars (the price of a very modest battleship) to enable the Government to take a worthy part in this great international event. The celebration will start most probably from the hundredth anniversary of the signing of the treaty of Ghent, on Christmas Eve, December 24, 1814, and will doubtless continue for several weeks, or possibly months, so as to enable all localities desiring to do so to have their share in the exercises. Suggestion has been made that important events of the War of 1812 should be celebrated, but the purpose of the National Committee is to make it a celebration of the advent of peace rather than of any particular events of the war. That two great and mighty nations have lived in touch with each other, politically, commercially, socially, etc., for a hundred years without lifting the sword against each other is one of the most extraordinary facts of history. The celebration ought to be made the most imposing peace demonstration ever conceived, however many millions it may cost.

The Peace of God.

Prof. C. M. Geer, of the Hartford Theological Seminary, has recently published a noteworthy paper upon "The Beginning of the Peace Movement," in which he has brought together the results of careful and rather unusual studies of movements toward peace on the part of the churches during the tenth and following centuries, especially in France, showing striking condemnations of the war system at that period as something unworthy of Christian nations. The practical purpose of his scholarly article is to urge upon the churches of today that they should consider the promotion of the peace movement as a cardinal feature of their regular duty. He says:

"These men of the Middle Ages believed that the

elimination of private war was the business of the church. They looked upon the world around them, and saw that their fellow-Christians were not following the leadership of the Prince of Peace. They did not wait for the rulers of the earth or for some new society to take the initiative, but believed that it was a part of their business as ministers of Jesus Christ to put a stop to war. This is one of the many merits of the Roman Catholic Church in the Middle Ages. It was the great peace society. It realized that the kingdom of God would not grow much until Christians stopped killing each other. When the history of the peace movement is written it will be found that one of the greatest factors in the long progress toward betterment had been the work of the church leaders who have tried to tame the wild spirits of their fellow-men. If work for the abolition of private war in the eleventh century was part of the duty of the Christian church, it is equally the duty of organized Christianity today to labor to put an end to public war. We ought not to leave this to the Socialists. We men of the church in the modern world ought not to fall behind these fellow-Christians of the past in our grasp of the meaning of peace. If peace ever comes to this world, it must be the peace of God. The widespread feeling that the time is approaching for the establishment of universal peace ought to have its strongest supporters in the leaders of the church today. It is one phase of the coming of the kingdom of heaven."

British Centenary Committee.

Not in this country only are steps being taken to insure the proper celebration of the hundred years of Anglo-American peace, but also on the other side of the Atlantic. A meeting was a short time ago called by the British Parliamentary Committee for the promotion of arbitration between Great Britain and the United States, to meet in Caxton Hall. The meeting was well attended. Sir Philip Magnus presided. Lord Weardale, Lord Blyth, Sir John Cockburn, Sir Percy Sanderson, Sir John Brunner, Sir Ernest Shackleton, Dr. Clifford, the Rev. J. Scott Lidgett, Mr. Silvester Horne, M. P.; Mr. W. B. Howland (New York); Mr. Shirley Benn, M. P.; Mr. J. A. Baker, M. P.; Mr. Donald Armour, Mr. R. T. Hawkin, and Mr. H. Brittain were among those present. The chairman hoped that France and Germany might be induced to take some share in the celebration. The period of war between Great Britain and France had never been renewed after 1815, and the British and German peoples had been at peace at least a century and a half. They all hoped that this long-extended peace might never be disturbed. Many letters of sympathy with the movement were read by the chairman. Mr. Bonar Law wrote: "So far as my observation, both in this country and in the United States, enables me to judge, each year adds to the feeling of respect and goodwill between the two peoples, and I hope and believe that in the coming years that feeling will grow steadily stronger." Mr. Lloyd George hoped that the centenary would be celebrated in a manner fit-

ting and worthy of such a notable event, and that that example to the world might make for international amity. On motion of Lord Weardale, it was agreed to form a committee for the celebration and to ask Lord Grey to accept the presidency.

Proposed Monument to Whittier.

It is sincerely to be hoped that the movement recently started in Washington for the erection of a memorial to John Greenleaf Whittier may be carried out in a way worthy of this distinguished New England poet and philanthropist. No man of his time was more truly national and universal in his ideas and sympathies and work than Whittier. No man whom the country has produced has done more for the ethical and literary culture of the nation than he. His poems are a part of the intellectual and spiritual furnishing of the souls of all well-cultivated Americans. By all means, let the nation erect in the National Capital a worthy monument to his memory, for his sake and the people's sake—a monument that may be seen and studied by the thousands of young men and women of the land that every year go to Washington to see things and to draw inspiration for their lives and work. Such a monument, if well conceived and wrought out, would be a much greater credit to the country and much more promotive of genuine patriotism than many of the monumental monstrosities and freaks, as a recent correspondent has styled them, which now meet the eye in nearly all the prominent places of the city. A very prominent public man in the Capitol just now has been heard to say within a year that there are not more than three or four of the public statues of the city that are fit for anything but the junk heap. This may be an extravagant statement, but it is extravagance in the right direction. The youth of the land might well judge from the monuments which they see at every turn in the Capital that the country has had almost no great men except the big fighters, or at least that the public authorities who put up the statues measure greatness principally by the capacity to fight and to lead organized bodies of men to deeds of death and destruction. All this needs to be changed. The United States stands for peace today. There is going to be much less fighting to do in the days to come than in the years gone by, and the virile youth of the country ought to have such types of manhood and heroism set before them, in the public monuments, as will inspire them to brave and self-sacrificing deeds in the great peaceful struggles of civil, political, social, and economic life of the future.

Those who wish to interest themselves in the proposed Whittier memorial may get further information by addressing Henry C. Gauss, Department of Justice, Washington, D. C.

A Peace Automobile

We clip from *The Friend* (Honolulu) the following interesting account of how a peace automobile won the blue ribbon in the recent seventh annual Floral Parade at Honolulu, Hawaii:

"The idea of peace between the nations was painstakingly carried out, and the float is worthy of special mention, both because of the great movement which it so strikingly represented and the artistic effect obtained through the lavish use of the Stars and Stripes combined with flags of three other countries. Seated in the rear of the car were two young ladies, in costumes representing Japan and France, and in the front seat with Miss Hustace, whose red, white, and blue costume was emblematic of the United States, was another young lady, representing Great Britain. The canopy overhead was fashioned entirely of red, white, and blue roses surmounted by the dove of Peace. The wheels and body of the car were also wound with roses, and the flags crossed with the Stars and Stripes in several conspicuous places were replicas of those carried by the three occupants of the car who were Miss Hustace's guests. Occupying a central position in the front of the car was a cannon sheltering in its blackened mouth a nest of tiny doves, hovering over which was the mother bird, the mate of the traditional representative of peace on the canopy. Crossed guns at either side served as flower-holders, and several war drums, placed here and there with artistic effect, were spilling over with flowers and maidenhair ferns. This is the third year that Miss Hustace has entered her car in the Floral Parade, winning each time the blue ribbon pennant."

The sudden death from pneumonia, **David J. Foster.** last month, of Hon. David J. Foster, member of Congress from Vermont, has been deeply felt and mourned by the peace party of the country. He was a comparatively new man among the peace forces of the nation, though he had come to the front very rapidly. The high character of his abilities, his standing in his party's councils, his vigor, vital energy, and fine voice, coupled with his sincere interest in and devotion to the cause of peace, had clearly marked out for him a career of unusual influence in these culminating days of the movement for the abolition of the savagery and senselessness of war and the organization of peace on a judicial basis among the nations. Mr. Foster had been chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs in the last Congress, and was the ranking Republican member of the committee in the present House. His influence in the committee as well as on the floor of the House was in general thrown steadily and strongly in favor of those policies, both national and international, which make for justice, trust, and friendship in international relations. He was deeply interested in the arbitration treaties with Great Britain and France, and one of the last things we ever heard him say was that he was sure the treaties would be ratified; he could not conceive that anything

else was possible. Mr. Foster had come to be much in demand as a speaker at peace conventions and at meetings of clubs and business organizations where the subject of arbitration and peace was the topic of discussion. He had an unusually fine presence and voice, and easily won his way into the sympathies of his audiences. We regret very deeply to have to record his departure. Men of his type are greatly needed at this crucial period in the halls of Congress, where so many members are theoretically and abstractly in favor of peace, but where so few are ready to come forward and take any personal initiative in promoting it in a practical way.

Miss Ellen Robinson.

The peace movement in England has lost one of its ablest and most loyal workers by the death of Miss Ellen Robinson, of Liverpool. Next to the Baroness von Suttner, Miss Robinson was, we think, entitled to rank as the foremost of the women peace workers of Europe. She began her peace work in 1886, and was ever afterwards, until her death, actively engaged in promoting the cause by both tongue and pen. She had a fine personality and an unusually good, well-trained voice. As a speaker she was strong, logical, and persuasive, and never failed to hold and interest her audiences. One beauty of her public work was that she always remained a woman, and was never mannish. She sometimes gave as many as one hundred addresses on peace in a year, though she was busy in other lines of philanthropic and social work. She was some years secretary of the Peace Union. From its organization in 1886 she was vice-president of the Liverpool and Birkenhead Women's Peace Society, speaking constantly at its meetings. She was also for some years a member of the British National Peace Council. During the Boer war, which was a great grief to her, she and her sister joined the African Conciliation Committee and worked on behalf of the women and children of the Concentration Camps. Because of her outspoken opposition to the war, she shared with many others the persecution meted out to all the anti-war party. Miss Robinson was a well-known figure in the International Peace Congresses, in which she always took an active and influential part, both in committee work and in the public discussions. Her knowledge of both French and German, in which she sometimes spoke most effectively, made her an unusually valuable member of these triple-tongued gatherings, in which difference of language sometimes resulted in temporary confusion and perplexity. At these times she was always serene and self-possessed, saw the center of the difficulty, and by her womanly dignity and impressiveness was able to help guide the Congress out into calm waters again. She was a peacemaker in the truest and best sense of the

term—in principle, in thought, in public utterance, in conciliatoriness of spirit, in breadth of sympathies, in fine toleration, as well as in quick and unmistakable loyalty and whole-hearted devotion to what she believed to be truth and duty.

What Peace Organizations Are Doing.

A peace society for the State of South Dakota was recently organized at Ipswich. The initiative for the society was taken by Joseph W. Parmley, a prominent citizen of the community. The society is expected to make itself a branch of the American Peace Society at an early meeting. The officers of the society are: Joseph W. Parmley, Ipswich, president; R. E. Dowdell, Artesian, vice-president; R. J. Woods, Sioux Falls, secretary; J. W. Campbell, Huron, treasurer. The society expects to have a vice-president from each county in the State. The society plans to carry on an aggressive campaign throughout the State by means of literature and lectures, as rapidly as funds can be secured for the work.

In its quarterly report for March, the Council of the American Association for International Conciliation gives the following list of documents which it has published and distributed within the preceding three months:

"The Anglo-American Arbitration Treaty," by Heinrich Lammasch, Professor of International Law, University of Vienna, Member of The Hague Court.

"Forces Making for International Conciliation and Peace," by Hon. Jackson H. Ralston.

"Special Bulletin. Address at Peace Dinner December 30," by Andrew Carnegie.

"Finance and Commerce, Their Relation to International Good Will," papers by Sereno S. Pratt, Isaac N. Seligman, E. H. Outerbridge, Thomas F. Woodlock, and George Paish.

"Do the Arts Make for Peace?" by Frank Jewett Mather, Jr., Professor in Princeton University.

"An Anthropologist's View of War," by Franz Boas, Professor of Anthropology in Columbia University.

The office of the American Association for International Conciliation has been moved from Columbia University to No. 407 West 117th street, New York, where it is housed with the Divisions of Economics and History and Intercourse and Education of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Assistance in the shape of loans has been given by the Association to certain Chinese students in this country who hold the Indemnity Scholarships of the Chinese Government, but who are temporarily without funds, owing to the unsettled condition of their country.

A branch of the American Peace Society for the State of Vermont is now in process of organization. On March 21 a meeting, called by Dr. J. L. Tryon, director of the New England Department of the American Peace Society, was held in the City Hall, Montpelier, to initiate the organization. The mayor, Hon. J. B. Estee, presided, and briefly reviewed the growth of the peace movement as a fruit of Christianity. Dr. Tryon gave a somewhat detailed statement of the modern movement for world peace, especially in the United States, and